



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 09/664,533 Confirmation No.: 4644  
Applicant : Vernon E. STATON, et al.  
Filed : September 18, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 1731  
Examiner : Dionne Walls  
  
Docket No. : 40575-182634 (was 58299.000004)  
Customer No. : 26694

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to Continued Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remark/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.